

California Department of Education, Child Development Division

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

Updated 2/1/02

The California Department of Education's Quality Improvement Program Plan for 2001-03 covers six critical categories of activities. These categories provide the infrastructure to ensure that children in subsidized child care and development programs are receiving the necessary support to enable them to grow, develop, and become able learners in safe and healthy child care environments. These categories are: parent education and assistance; professional development; early literacy; child care capacity building; health and safety; program evaluation; and other activities consistent with the purposes and requirements of the Child Care Development Fund.

In State Fiscal Year 2001-02, the proposed Quality Plan expenditures total \$100.6 million. Of this amount, federal requirements mandate that \$34.8 million be allocated for the earmark categories of infants and toddlers, child care resource and referral and school-age child care activities.

The following are the major categories and activities in the proposed 2001-2002 CCDF Quality Improvement Program Plan:

I. Parent Education and Assistance

A. Resource and Referral Programs **

Funds will be allocated to support California's system of resource and referral programs that are located in every county of the State. These funds support administering the Trustline Application process; maintaining a data base that includes information about all licensed providers offering child care in each resource and referral program's service delivery area; making referrals for child care services to meet families' needs; disseminating consumer education materials; developing, gathering, and reporting data to the CDE regarding the supply and demand for child care services within their local areas; and carrying out other activities that support center-based, family child care and license-exempt providers, and parents in each county or service area.

Project Contact: Local R&R Program

CDD Contact: Assigned Field Services Consultant, (916) 322-6233

B. Comprehensive Consumer Education

1. Consumer Education Campaign

California has embarked on a major public awareness campaign about the importance of quality child care and development programs to the child, family, and community. Major emphasis focuses on assisting parents in selecting child care services that best meet the needs of their child and their family as they are involved in work or training activities. Large quantities of materials will be reproduced for dissemination by CWDs, public health departments, hospitals, schools, libraries, video stores, child care providers, resource and referral programs, churches, medical offices, training sites, community colleges, and other entities.

CDD Contact: Aurora Dominguez, 916-323-4601

2. 800-KIDS-793 Phone Line for Parents

A 1-800 phone system, accessible to the public throughout the state of California, will offer assistance to parents and child care providers in receiving child care and family resource information in their communities. Callers can speak with an information specialist regarding the child care resource and referral agency in their local area. An automated system, using caller

zip code information, will refer callers to the name and number of the caller's local child care R&R agency. This bilingual service system is an important component of the comprehensive consumer education campaign.

Project Contact: Child Care Resource and Referral Network, (415) 882-0234

CDD Contact: Aurora Dominguez, 916-323-4601

3. Parent Involvement Initiative

Funds will be used to focus on increasing parent involvement opportunities in child care and development programs. These activities will complement existing quality improvement program directives that emphasize the inclusion of family participation. This initiative will establish a parent involvement advisory committee, produce a strategic plan for parent involvement activities, create training materials, and implement parent involvement training.

Project Contact: Deborah Montgomery, American Institutes for Research, (650) 493-3550

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, 916-323-1342

II. Professional Development

A. Child Development Training Consortium

The Child Development Training Consortium provides direct child development training through college-level coursework to impact the quality of care. This training creates a pool of qualified staff for child care and development programs and addresses the issues of access to training, career ladder access for providers, staff retention, content flexibility, and cost effectiveness while providing outreach at the local level to assist in the recruitment and preparation of underrepresented groups. Participants, currently employed in a child care and development program, earn college units in child development and general education as required to attain the Child Development Permit. Students may attend regularly scheduled core curriculum classes and special topic classes based on locally identified needs. Classes may be offered at off-campus locations to facilitate access for working students. Approximately 8,000 students complete more than 55,000 units each year at 96 community colleges. The success of this program is reflected in a 97 percent student course completion rate.

Project Contact: Linda Butterfield, Yosemite Community College District, (209) 572-6080

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

B. Mentor Teacher/Director Program

The mentor program will be conducted at approximately 70 community college campuses. The goal of the program is to support experienced teachers or directors and encourage them to remain in the field of early childhood education. This program provides financial compensation and other benefits to child care and development teachers and directors who are selected as mentors. Mentor applicants must complete a self-assessment of their classroom, and their program director must agree to conditions of their participation. Candidates for Director Mentor undergo a two-day training session and agree to attend subsequent Director Mentor seminar series. A local selection committee convened by the community college chooses mentor teachers and directors. The average stipend per classroom mentor is estimated to be \$1,800 per year. More than 1500 early childhood education students and director proteges will be provided alternative placements for practicum experiences and direct program consultation while offering additional salary compensation to 600 mentor teachers and directors.

Project Contact: Peyton Nattinger, City College of San Francisco,

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

C. Stipend for Permit

The Stipend for Permit project is managed through the Child Development Training Consortium. This program assists potential teachers in child care and development programs to obtain a Child Development Permit by paying the cost of the application fees. Salaries of child care teaching staff are substantially less than those of workers with similar levels of education. Assistance with the cost of permits provides these staff with incentives to proceed with completing child development related training which research has shown to increase the quality of care provided to children. Staff also benefits from completing the additional coursework, as they are able to secure permanent positions as teachers. A filing fee of \$55 is required for each initial permit application plus a one-time \$56 fingerprint *Live Scan* fee. Implementation of this program continues in collaboration with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing which issues these permits.

Project Contact: Cindy Lovett, Yosemite Community College District, (209) 572-6080

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

D. Child Development Teacher and Supervisor Grant Program

This program, administered by the California Student Aid Commission, provides assistance through grants for college course work leading to the attainment of a Child Development Permit at the Teacher, Master Teacher, Supervisor, or Program Director levels. Participants in this program are selected on the basis of their demonstrated financial need and academic achievement. They must further commit to working one full year in a licensed child care center for every year they receive a grant. Commitments will be honored for students approved prior to July 1, 1997, under the pre-existing teacher loan assumption program.

Project Contact: Judith Beck, California Student Aid Commission, (916) 526-7599

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

E. Career Incentive Grant Program **

This program, administered by the Child Development Training Consortium, provides assistance through grants for college course work leading to the attainment of a Child Development Permit at the Teacher, Master Teacher, Supervisor, or Program Director levels. Participants in this program must be current employees in a California Department of Education, Child Development Division funded program. This program serves individuals who do not have access to a Consortium community college campus or attend a four-year college or university. Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.

Project Contact: Gail Brovant, Yosemite Community College District, (209) 572-6080

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

F. Trainer of Trainer Institutes

This comprehensive multi-media training program for trainers of infant/toddler caregivers is presented in four separate modules which cover the topics of social-emotional development, quality group care, cognitive and language development, and cultural and family issues. Participants who complete the modules and related course work receive certificates, which recognize them as endorsed trainers for the Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PITC). Endorsed trainers who receive scholarships will be required to conduct a minimum of twenty-five hours of training in their local area during the next two years using the PITC materials. Participants receive copies of all curriculum guides, training manuals, and other print resource materials from the program and are able to purchase the videos at discounted prices.

Project Contact: Alicia Tuesta, WestEd, (415) 289-2300

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

G. School-Age

1. Training for School-Age Program Professionals (Teachers and Administrators)

Training activities will be drawn from prepared materials, such as the CDE/CDD Kids' Time Training Manual, Program guide, and video. The training will include such topics as developmentally appropriate practices for school-age programs, behavior management techniques, creating positive interpersonal environment, assessing children's interests, building partnerships with parents, strengthening links with the child's school, and encouraging community participation. Participants will be provided resources and video to support training in their local communities. The developers/trainers will be the California School-Age Consortium, the University of California, Irvine, and others, as designated by the CDE/CDD.

Project Contact: Darci Smith, California School Age Consortium, (415) 957-9775

CDD Contact: Barbara Metzruk, (916) 323-1313

2. Stipend for Trainers with a School-Age and After-School Focus

This activity establishes a knowledge base, supports the retention of trainers for the State funded *Kids' Time* training of trainers institutes, and provides community-based training to staff working in before-and after-school programs. The CDE will provide stipends for endorsed trainers to conduct local training sessions and provide on-site consultation for the enhancement of quality in school-age and after school programs.

Project Contact: Darci Smith, California School Age Consortium, (415) 957-9775

CDD Contact: Barbara Metzruk, (916) 323-1313

3. School-Age Curriculum and Materials Development and Distribution

Program materials will be prepared and disseminated in print and electronic format to provide and foster the training and development of staff and promote high-quality school-age and after-school programs. Materials will include a science activity guide; a handbook for college volunteers; a manual for program administrators working with volunteers; and a report on programs designed for young adolescents.

Project Contact: Joan Bissell, UC Irvine, (949) 824-7466

CDD Contact: Barbara Metzruk, (916) 323-1313

H. Statewide Network for Child Development Permit Matrix Professional Growth Advisors

Funds will be used to continue to coordinate the Statewide Network of Child Development Permit Matrix Professional Growth Advisors. The contractor will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a registry of Professional Growth Advisors; providing training for new advisors; providing refresher training for 700 existing advisors; and developing and maintaining an electronic system for providing information about the professional growth plan requirements.

Project Contact: Cathy De La Mare, Yosemite Community College District, (209) 572-6080

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

III. Early Literacy

A. Pre-kindergarten Learning and Development Guidelines **

In the previous State Plan, the *Pre-kindergarten Learning and Development Guidelines* were published and support resources, including a video, were developed. A series of in-service training sessions, based, the *Pre-kindergarten Learning and Development Guidelines*, will continue throughout the State using facilitated live-feed satellite broadcasts. These sessions will target teachers who work with children aged three through five. In addition, funds will be allocated to develop, produce, and disseminate classroom curriculum materials linked to the *Guidelines*. The

Guidelines curriculum materials, and training design will also be adapted for use by all licensed and license-exempt family child care providers.

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, 916-323-3034

B. Implementation of the Desired Results System for Children and Parents

Funds will be used to develop and implement an evaluation and accountability system to measure the achievement of the identified desired results for children and their parents receiving State-and federally-subsidized child care and development services. The system will measure the achievement of desired results for children and families as well as the evaluation of achievement of Program Performance Standards for direct service programs, APPs, and R&R agencies.

CDD Contact: Barbara Metzruk, (916) 323-1313

C. Training to Support Staff Working with Children with Limited-English Proficiency

A series of two-day Training of Trainers sessions based on the CDE materials, *Assessing and Fostering a First and a Second Language in Early Childhood*, will be conducted throughout the State. These sessions will target program coordinators and other supervisors serving preschool-aged children in California. Participants will receive a training manual, resource guides, videos, and support materials, which will facilitate additional training in their local communities.

Project Contact: Marcia Meyer, Santa Cruz County Office of Education, (831) 479-5321

CDD Contact: Sy Dang Nguyen, (916) 323-1309

IV. Child Care Capacity Building

A. Local Child Care Planning Councils

1. Local Child Care Planning Councils Grants **

Local child care planning councils, appointed by local county boards of supervisors and county superintendents of schools pursuant to *Education Code* Section 8499.5, assess the needs for child care and development services and identify gaps in the supply of existing licensed center-based and family child care programs. Based on the information obtained through periodic needs assessments, the local child care planning councils establish priorities for the use of funds to address the identified needs of the community. These priorities typically specify the ages of the children, the target populations, special needs or circumstances of families, and the geographic areas of service.

Project Contact: Local Planning Council

CDD Contact: Linda Parfitt, (916) 322-1048

2. Child Care Salary and Retention Incentive Program**

Funds for this program will be allocated to LPCs to be used to address retention of qualified child care employees in state-subsidized child care centers.

Project Contact: Local Planning Council

CDD Contact: Linda Parfitt, (916) 322-1048

B. Regional Resource Centers to Develop Capacity in Underserved Areas

In keeping with the legislative intent of *Education Code* 8269 to "...promote equal access to child development services across the state," ten regional community-based organizations have been selected, through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to provide training and technical assistance to local agencies to increase their ability to compete successfully for funds and operate quality child care and development programs in underserved communities.

Project Contact: Regional Resource Centers

CDD Contact: Aurora Dominguez, (916) 323-4601

C. Infant/Toddler Capacity Building

1. California Child Care Health Program

Funds will be allocated to continue to support the presence of an infant/toddler specialist and an infant health specialist to respond to inquiries from potential, new, and existing family child care (including license-exempt) and center-based providers related to health and developmental issues for children from birth to three years of age. An infant health specialist will be added to the Healthline to provide guidance about health issues infant and toddler programs

Project Contact: Healthline, (800) 333-1312

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

2. Resource and Playground Safety Grants

Funds will be allocated to provide grants to infant and toddler providers to cover the cost of: infant/toddler equipment, appropriate educational materials, minor renovation, and repairs to meet health and safety requirements; and for environmental changes to support small groups and continuity of care and to ensure playground safety.

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

3. Expand Child Care Initiative Project

Funds will be allocated to maintain and further expand the Child Care Initiative Project to increase the supply of infant/toddler family child care providers in approximately 25 to 35 counties by the recruitment, training, and initial support of family child care providers serving infants and toddlers. This effort will focus on those counties with the greatest unmet need for infant/toddler care.

Project Contact: Child Care Resource and Referral Network, (415) 882-0234

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

4. Outreach Sessions

Funds will be allocated to conduct up to 25 outreach training sessions for existing planning groups to support the completion of their county infant/toddler capacity plan. These plans were initiated during community forums conducted during State fiscal year 1998-1999. Up to 10 outreach sessions will be held for specific target populations. WestEd will coordinate these sessions. Critical topics will include: recent brain research and implications of these research findings for administrative policies; results of national studies of child care quality; and program practices and care-giving strategies that support optimal infant/toddler development. The content and length of the specifically targeted sessions will be customized to meet the needs of the unique audiences including teen parent groups, American Indian tribal groups, and other planning agencies.

Project Contact: Janet Poole, WestEd, (916) 783-9011

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

5. Inclusion of Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

Funds will be allocated to provide training (*Beginning Together*) for those certified by the Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PITC) on strategies, program practices, and models that support full inclusion of infants and toddlers with disabilities in child care settings. This activity will create a cadre of qualified trainers who will be available to assist local child care providers in complying with the requirements of the American with Disabilities Act to create inclusive environments. Outreach sessions will be conducted throughout the State each year to bring together PITC trainers, infant/toddler program directors, and early interventionists to discuss strategies for local coordination of services. The PITC Model Demonstration Programs will also receive training and technical assistance. Current CDE inclusion materials, such as *Project Exceptional*, will be updated to address the need to create inclusive child care environments for infants and toddlers. Additional materials will be developed for infant/toddler programs and trainers following a review of existing materials and the identification of gaps that need to be filled to promote program improvement.

Project Contact: Linda Brault, Sonoma State University, (760) 471-3827

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

6. Expand Program for Infant/Toddler Caregiver Institutes

Funds will be allocated to expand the PITC trainer of trainer institutes by having 60 additional trainers completing each of the four modules. This training will expand the cadre of local certified PITC trainers. Additional scholarships will be provided for approximately 75 endorsed trainers at the annual PITC graduate conference.

Project Contact: Alicia Tuesta, WestEd, (415) 289-2300

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

7. Stipends for Trainers

Funds will be allocated to support the retention of trainers who have completed State-funded trainer-of-trainer initiatives and to provide community-based training to staff working in child care and development programs. CDE will provide stipends for endorsed trainers to primarily conduct on site training sessions and provide technical assistance for the enhancement of quality in infant/toddler programs. Center-based programs, as well as small groups of family child care and license-exempt providers, may receive up to 60 hours of training and technical assistance per year. These training activities will be evaluated each year using an onsite, pre-and-post review methodology. Stipends may also be provided to training participants.

Project Contact: Arlene Gulbe, WestEd, (415) 289-2300

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

8. Regional Trainers/Coordinators

Funds will be allocated to provide ten regional coordinators to support PITC certified trainers in the provision of training at the local level. These regional coordinators will be responsible for overseeing the allocation of stipends for local trainers; arranging regular meetings with trainers to share new resource materials; coordinating outreach services to new and existing infant/toddler programs; and coordinating PITC training at the five community college PITC model training sites discussed below. An additional coordinator will be added to the Los Angeles service area.

Project Contact: Janet Poole, (916) 783-9011

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

9. Model Demonstration Programs

Funds will be allocated to provide funding necessary for staff training, equipment, and materials to enhance and maintain 11 PITC model demonstration programs. Funds will also be allocated for renovation and repair needed to help modify the site to provide opportunities for unobtrusive observation of the best practices of the PITC philosophy and to support development of small

groups, continuity of care, primary caregiving, and following children's individual schedules. In addition, a model demonstration program will be added in each of the remaining four regions, with two in Los Angeles.

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

10. Family Child Care Professional Development Project

This project will continue to support the professional development of family child care associations. Nationwide, approximately 70% of children under the age of three years are cared for in family child care settings. Family child care associations offer a unique opportunity to support the professional growth and retention of these providers. In the second year of this plan, the project will be reconfigured to: focus on recruiting new associations in underrepresented areas of the state; provide grants to the associations for professional development activities; and to provide training to assist the associations as necessary. The grants may be used for activities such as the provision of locally-determined training and to assist in providing substitutes when needed for providers to participate in professional development.

Project Contact: Malia Ramler, Center for Health Training, (415) 929-9100

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

11. Infant and Toddler Early Development and Learning Guidelines

Funds will be used to develop, publish, and disseminate guidelines for infant and toddlers that are analogous to the *Prekindergarten Learning and Development Guidelines* produced last year by the CDD. The content of these guidelines will then be infused in infant/toddler training activities. PITC endorsed trainers, participants in the PITC institutes, PITC model program staff, and other identified groups will receive copies of the guidelines and training about including the content of the guidelines in program design and training sessions. Training at the local level will be conducted for directors of infant/toddler programs and to other identified target groups, such as family child care and license-exempt providers.

Project Contact: Peter Mangione, WestEd, (916) 783-9011

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

12. Desired Results Infant/Toddler Developmental Profile

Funds will be used to establish the validity and reliability of the infant/toddler developmental profiles of the Desired Results System.

Project Contact: Peter Mangione, WestEd, (916) 783-9011

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

D. School-Age Capacity Building

Before-and After-School Program Grants

Funds will be used to provide resource grants to new and on-going providers of before-and after-school programs and to support school-age quality enhancement activities. These grants will cover the cost of special, age-appropriate equipment; ancillary educational materials; and minor renovation and repair to meet health and safety requirements.

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

E. TANF Training

1. Training TANF Recipients as Child Care Teachers

This successful two-year program trains TANF recipients to become child care and development teachers. CDE proposes an expansion from five to ten geographic areas of the State. During the first year, TANF recipients will be selected, enrolled full time in community college course work with tutorial assistance, and assigned mentor teachers to supervise their field placements and provide support and assistance throughout the program. The second year of training will

include 32 hours of paid employment per week, continued education to complete 24 units in early childhood education, and 16 units in general education. Each successful TANF recipient will qualify for a Child Development Teacher Permit at the end of the two-year training period.

CDD Contact: Sy Dang Nguyen, (916) 323-1309

2. Family Child Care At Its Best Project – University of California, Davis

The *Family Child Care At Its Best* Project offered through The Center for Human Services Training & Development at University of California, Davis will provide training and quality improvement services to licensed family child care home providers throughout the State.

Project Contact: Diane Harkins, Project Manager, UCD – 530-757-8643

CDD Contact: Sy Dang Nguyen, (916) 323-1309

F. Family Child Care Provider Training

1. Public Broadcasting Preschool Education Project **

This project will continue to provide training for approximately 2,500 family child care providers and parents and will be conducted within the viewing areas of seven public television stations in Fresno, San Francisco, San Diego, Eureka, San Jose, Los Angeles, and Redding. A training of trainers model will include information on how to use television appropriately in the education of young children. Concepts of emerging literacy will be stressed. Providers will receive a provider handbook, training props, and several storybooks. Each public television station has established a network of trainers in order to offer continued support and to conduct refresher training.

CDD Contact: Aurora Dominguez, (916) 323-4601

2. Child Care Initiative Project **

The Child Care Initiative Project was created in 1985 to address the shortage of licensed, quality family child care programs in California. The Initiative is conducted by local R&R agencies, which implement a five-stage child care supply-building process. This process includes: assessing local supply and demand and targeting shortages of care in specific geographic areas; recruiting interested individuals who have the potential to become licensed family child care providers; training these individuals to provide quality care and to manage a small business effectively; providing technical assistance to help individuals get licensed and started; and providing ongoing support to help them stay in operation. While private and local contributions to match the CCDF funds will be encouraged, a specific matching requirement will not be included since it could act as a barrier to building the supply of licensed family child care providers, especially in rural areas and in areas with high concentrations of poverty.

Project Contact: California Child Care Resources and Referral Network, (415) 882-0234

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

G. Special Needs

1. Map to Inclusive Child Care

Funds will be allocated to continue activities included in the strategic plan developed by the advisory committee for the Map to Inclusive Child Care Project. This project began in SFY year 1998-1999 with a federal technical assistance grant to support a statewide initiative to expand opportunities for inclusion of children with disabilities and other special needs in child care settings. Major activities will focus on: developing linkages among key agencies, groups, and stakeholders to create a service delivery system that better meets the needs of children with disabilities and their families; identifying and addressing infrastructure issues, including licensing, that are barriers to inclusion of children with disabilities in child care settings; identifying and disseminating models for training, blended funding, and resource utilization that support best practices for inclusive child care; and working with college faculty to revise early childhood/child

development curriculum to include inclusion of children with disabilities. Participants will include representatives from Head Start, key State agencies including CDE's Special Education Division and the Departments of Developmental Services, Social Services, and Mental Health.

Project Contact: Marsha Sherman, California Child Care Health Program, (510) 839-1243

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, (916) 323-1342

2. Inclusion of Children with Disabilities and Special Needs

Funds will be allocated to provide training for preschool staff on strategies, program practices, program models, and legal requirements regarding inclusion of children with disabilities and children with other special needs in child care settings.

Project Contact: Virginia Reynolds, WestEd, (916) 492-9999

CDD Contact: Tom Cole, (916) 323-3034

V. Health and Safety

A. Healthline (800) 333-3212**

The California Child Care Healthline is a statewide, toll-free telephone service accessible to child care providers and parents. The purpose of the Healthline is to provide information and consultation on children's health and safety issues, including communicable disease management and reporting requirements; immunization; behavioral and nutritional concerns; child abuse; children with special needs; and early childhood education and development. Pediatric health **professionals** answer the Healthline. Referrals to health-related services are made when necessary.

Project Contact: Marsha Sherman, California Child Care Health Program, (510) 839-1195

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

B. Health and Safety Training for Licensed and License-Exempt Providers**

Resource and Referral agencies will receive funds through a contract to arrange for or provide reimbursement to licensed center-based staff, licensed family child care providers, and license-exempt family child care and in-home providers. Reimbursement is for costs associated with completing health and safety training, including pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); first aid; prevention and control of communicable disease in child care settings; safe handling of food; nutrition; disaster preparedness and mitigation; and other health-and safety-related subjects. Trainers and curriculum content is reviewed and approved by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA).

CDD Contact: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

C. Trustline Registry of License-Exempt Providers **

Funds will support the Trustline Registry and help ensure the safety of California's children. License-exempt child care providers, including nannies and babysitters, who have passed a background screening will be entered into the Registry. To meet minimum requirements all exempt caregivers listed with Trustline Registry are required to be cleared through a check of fingerprint records at the California Department of Justice, the child abuse central index, and a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check. The Trustline Registry also allows parents to verify that a babysitter and license-exempt child care provider has completed this process. Exempt providers, who serve families that receive state subsidies, must also complete a "Health and Safety Self-Certification" form that is submitted to the CWD.

Project Contact: Michelle Dille, California Department of Social Services, (916) 274-0497

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

D. Subsidized Trustline Applicant Reimbursement

Funds will be used to continue the support of the Trustline Registration process of state and federally subsidized license-exempt providers. *Health and Safety Code* Section 1596.66(c) requires that "...if a fee is charged by the local resource and referral agency that takes a provider's fingerprints, the provider shall be reimbursed for this charge by the State Department of Education, through the local child care resource and referral agency, from federal Child Care and Development Block Grant funds to the extent that those funds are available." Fees associated with the Trustline process are paid for license exempt providers serving families who are eligible for subsidized child care or as participants in stages two and three of the CalWORKs child care system.

Project Contact: Michelle Dille, California Department of Social Services, (916) 274-0497

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

E. License Enforcement for Children's Child Care Programs **

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD), has responsibility for licensing child care facilities under authority of the California Health and Safety Code (Sections 1596.70, et. seq) and to enforce minimum standards contained in Title 22, Division 12, of the California Code of Regulations. The Division's mission is to protect the health and safety of children in care. CCLD licenses over 13,000 child care centers and more than 36,000 family child care homes. Ten counties, under agreement with the state, license another 5,900 family child care homes. This plan includes additional funds to conduct comprehensive licensing visits to child day care facilities. In addition, the Child Care Advocacy Program (CCAP) promotes the delivery of quality child care by providing a link between child care licensing and the community. CCAP tailors its activities to benefit each area's individual needs. A child care advocate is assigned to each CCLD field office and provides information to parents, child care providers, employers, educators and community groups.

Project Contact: Val Jones, (916) 324-4304

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

VI. Program Evaluation

A. Program Evaluation

1. Evaluate Program Quality Improvement Activities

Funds will be used to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of all major program quality activities over a five-year period. The evaluation results will be used to determine whether to continue, modify, or terminate the activities under review. Beginning in the State fiscal year 1998-1999, several programs are evaluated each year to allow completion of all activities within the five-year cycle. In addition, funds will be directed to assess the validity of developmental measures incorporated into the Desired results Developmental Profiles.

Project Contact: Dee Torre, MGT of America, 850-386-3191

CDD Contact: Mary Smithberger, 916-323-1342

2. Environmental Rating Project

Individuals will be trained to use the *Environment Rating Scales* (Harms, Clifford, and Cryer), and to establish highly consistent ratings among the reviewers. These highly trained individuals will then rate the teaching and learning environments of classrooms across the state as an essential part of the Desired Results system of program review. This review of program quality will be used to rate the "Teaching and Learning" section of the Coordinated Compliance Review Instrument. The purpose of this classroom rating approach is to help programs increase program quality (i.e., best practice) in order to achieve desired results for children and families. These efforts will promote a high degree of confidence in the review process, and will support the improvement of quality in programs for children attending state funded programs.

CDD Contact: Monique Moton, (916) 323-5089

VII. Other Quality Activities Consistent with the Purposes and Requirements of the CCDF

A. Facilities Renovation and Repair Grants **

Funds will be used to maintain compliance with health and safety requirements established by State licensing regulations and local health and fire departments, to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and to purchase equipment necessary for the health and safety of the enrolled children. Funds may not be used for the purchase or improvement of land, or for the purchase, construction, or permanent improvement of the facility. Only public or private nonprofit agencies currently under contract with the CDE/CDE for center-based programs may apply for this funding.

CDD Contact: Laura Sauer, (916) 324-4253

B. Instructional Materials Grants**

Funds will be used to purchase developmentally appropriate durable or consumable curriculum related instructional materials. Grant amounts are determined by using the combined maximum reimbursable amount (MRA) of all subsidized programs operated by an individual agency. No grant is made for less than \$1000.00. Center-based programs, family child care home networks, and resource and referral agencies currently under contract with the CDE/CDD may apply for this funding.

CDE Contact: Lori August, (916) 324-6586

VIII. Child Care Facility Accreditation Project**

The California Children and Families Commission has allocated funding in a collaborative effort with CDD. Funds from both sources will support this project to assist providers in achieving accreditation. Eligible providers are state-subsidized child care centers located in the attendance areas of low performing school districts and family child care homes located anywhere in California. Approximately 370 centers and 900 homes will be accredited over a three-year period. The training and technical assistance model will incorporate both human contact and support with increased access to technology. Regional facilitators, CD-ROM and Internet, as well as satellite broadcasts will provide a unique and customized training for participants.

Project Contact: Tom Kubasak, CAEYC (916) 486-7750 EXT. 240

CDD Contact Person: Gail Brodie, (916) 322-4861

**** This activity includes state funding**